Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

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GITA★
Government Information
Technology Agency
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Synergy | Management | Accountability | Responsiveness | Technology

Outline

- **AIRS Background**

- **SOP Development**

- **Discussion; Request for Approval**

- **AIRS Next Steps**

- AIRS = A statewide system that allows for interagency, multi-discipline response to communicate on a single radio platform.

- AIRS = A system of tri-band repeaters that allows VHF, UHF 700 and 800 Mhz radio users to communicate together without swapping radios or utilizing cache radios.

- AIRS can be used when two or more agencies are working together on a scene using different radio systems

- AIRS enables multi-agency, multi-discipline and/or multi-jurisdictional operations

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Priorities of AIRS Use

- Disasters, extreme emergencies, large scale incidents

- Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property

- Incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies

- Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency response

- Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for short term use

- Itinerant use by out of area personnel (but not for use as a travel channel)

- Drills, tests and exercises

Structure Supporting AIRS
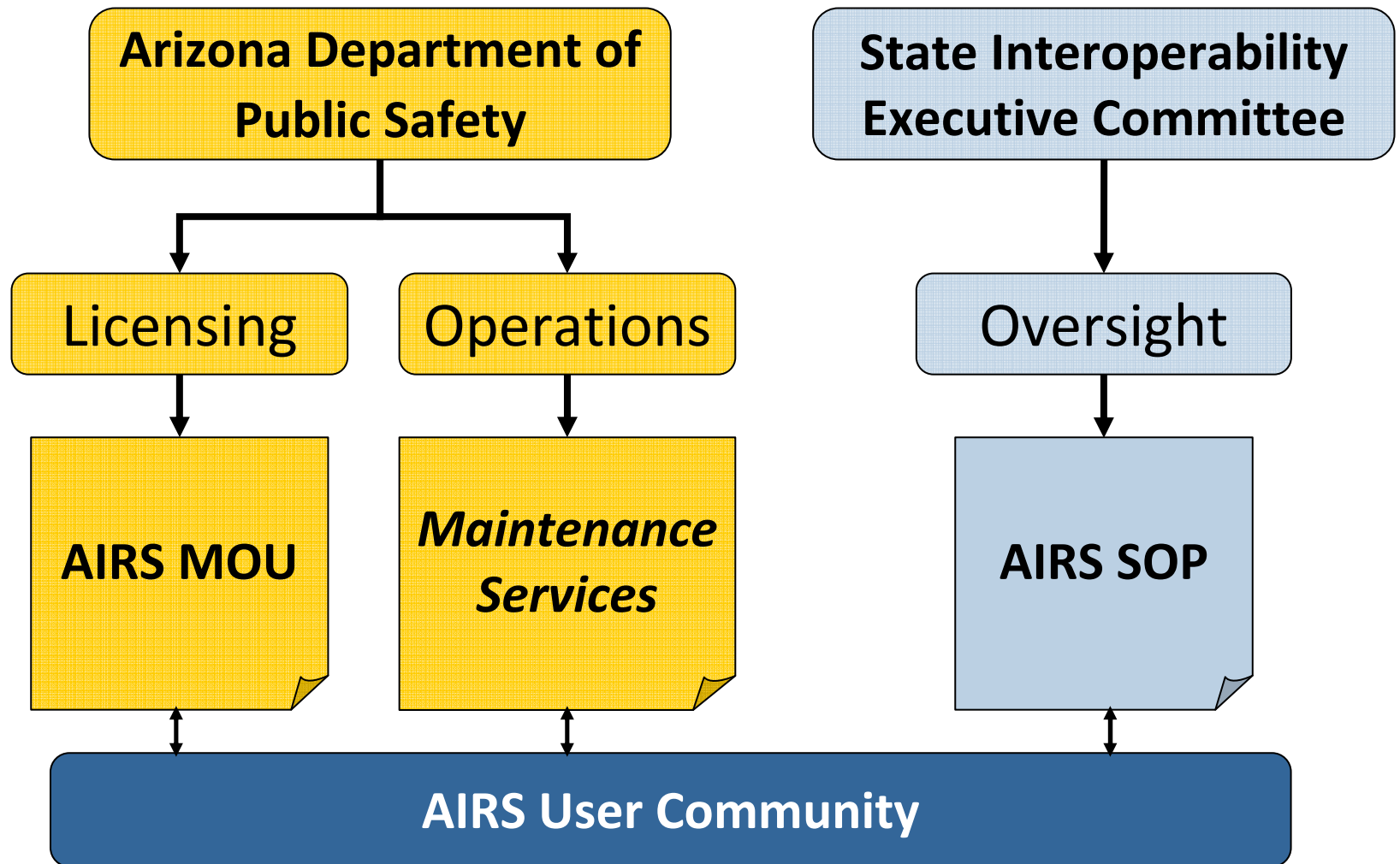
AIRS MOU Requirements

- Ensure that appropriate mutual aid calling channels are monitored at dispatch centers identified in a regional communications plan

- Perform on-incident use in accordance with Incident Command Plans

- Agree to participate in regional and statewide communications planning and exercises

- Use must comply with the AIRS State Plan (AIRS SOP) and federal/state/local laws and rules

- Use in accordance with local/regional policies

AIRS MOU

AIRS SOP Requirements

User Responsibilities

- Keep radio traffic to a minimum and use plain language

- Agencies with call signs - identify themselves by agency name and call sign

- Agencies without call signs - identify organization and individual's name

- Follow established alternative communication plans in case of system failure

- Operate within ICS or NIMS protocol

- Be available on the assigned channel

AIRS SOP

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General Communication Center Responsibilities

- Continuously monitor AIRS channel(s)

- Provide communication center staff training

- Conduct periodic documented testing of AIRS

Incident Communication Center Responsibilities

- Monitor and respond on AIRS channel(s)

- Maintain dispatch documentation

- Document the event

- Coordinate other agency unit response as requested or necessary

- Resume general operations and notify involved agencies at termination of incident

AIRS SOP

AIRS SOP Development

Section of AIRS SOP	Sources for Content
Introductory Material (Sections 1, 2.1 & 2.2)	Historical documents
Rules of Use & Prioritization (Sections 2.3.1, 2.3.2)	State Plan, NIMS, ICS, best practices
Restrictions and Limitations (Sections 2.3.3)	Historical documents, Users, DPS
Monitoring, Dispatching and Users Actions (Sections 2.3.4 and 2.3.5) - AND - AIRS Training Requirements (Section 2.6)	Developed with the help of subject matter experts and reference to comparable documents; Reviewed by the Workgroups/Users
Problem Identification and Resolution (Section 2.4)	SIEC and DPS Discussion
AIRS Testing (Section 2.5)	Based on current AIRS testing practices

- First quarter 2009 – recruit personnel for SIEC workgroups

- First quarter 2009 – utilize OEC Technical Assistance to prepare SOP Assessment

- April 28, 2009 – OEC Contractor presents AIRS Assessment to SIEC

- May 18, 2009 – SIEC co-chairs present plan (developed by PSIC and SIEC co-chairs) for SOP development to PSCC for comment

- May to September 2009 – SIEC Workgroups work w/PSIC staff on AIRS SOP through conference calls and comment drafts

- AIRS SOP Update Presentations & Discussions at June 10th and August 12th SIEC meetings

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SOP Approval

- AIRS SOP approved by SIEC at its October 14th meeting

- AIRS SOP posted to the PSIC website at:

  www.azgita.gov/psic/AIRS

- Today the SIEC is presenting the AIRS SOP to PSCC for approval

-- DISCUSSION --

Action Item:

AIRS Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Approval

> **GOAL: Increase Utility and Utilization of AIRS as a Statewide Resource**

1. Address AIRS issues through SIEC workgroups to improve usability

2. Continue outreach in regard to AIRS and other key interoperability resources

3. Develop an AIRS Training program *[Note: Funding has been identified.]*

Thank you.

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